

The Laurens Advertiser.

VOLUME XXX.

LAURENS, SOUTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 1915.

NUMBER 34

NEW CITY COUNCIL SWORN IN MONDAY

Power Contract to be Tested by Council

OFFICERS ELECTED FOR COMING YEAR

All Former Officers and Employees of the City Re-Elected Except Superintendent of Power House, whose Position is Combined with Another. The newly elected city mayor and council were sworn into office Monday night and began their two-year terms immediately. Work of considerable moment was gone into and some important matters carried over to later meetings. The election of officers and the disposition of the light and power question for the next two years occupied most of the time of the meeting.

The Light and Power Contract.

A resolution was passed and it is understood unanimously adopted, calling for bids to furnish electric power to the city for the next two years. As the Reedy River Power Company has a contract to furnish the city with current for several years hence, this resolution is understood to be a notice of cancellation. The matter was to have been thrashed out at a meeting last night, after this paper went to press. The resolution adopted by the council is as follows: "Notice is hereby given that pursuant to a resolution of the City Council of the City of Laurens adopted on the 15th day of March, 1915, bids will be received by said city council for the furnishing of electric current needed by the city of Laurens for the purpose of lighting the street and public places of the said city and furnishing light and power to the inhabitants thereof. You are hereby invited to attend a meeting of the City Council of the said city to be held at the City Hall on the 16th day of March, 1915, at 8 o'clock, P. M., and to submit bids for the furnishing of such current to the city for a period of two years, next ensuing, the city reserving the right to reject any and all bids."

Opera House.

The council also took up the matter of the contract for the opera house for the next two years. It was decided to advertise for bids to be opened March 29th. Bids are to be submitted both on the basis of a flat rental and also with light and fuel furnished. The bidder will have to furnish a surety to guarantee fulfillment of the contract. The advertisement of this action will be found in another section of this paper.

Election of Employees.

In the election of officers and employees, H. H. Kitchens was re-elected city clerk, W. S. Bagwell, chief of police and J. T. Langston, health officer. All present police officers were re-elected. The position of superintendent of the electric light and water plant held by H. L. Blount, was done away with and this job combined with that of meter reader. J. E. Philpot was elected to the place at a salary of \$75 per month. R. E. Babb, Esq., was re-elected city attorney.

It is understood that there were a number of applicants for all the places to be filled.

It is understood that other matters of minor importance were attended to.

LETTER FROM MR. WATTS.

Gives Outline of Demonstration Work Among the Farmers.

The Advertiser has received from John D. W. Watts, County Demonstration agent, the following letter which explains itself:

Editor The Advertiser: Our effort in agriculture is to get a thoroughly pulverized, well drained seed bed. Use best variety of seed. Give rows and the plants in the rows space suited to the plant, the soil and the climate and use intensive tillage during the growing period of the crop. Increase the farm stock to the extent of utilizing all the waste product and idle lands on the farm. Produce all the feed required for the men and animals on the farm. Keep an account of each farm produce in order to know the gain or loss that arises.

John D. W. Watts.

CHICORA GIRLS TO VISIT CLINTON

To Give Concert at Thornwell Memorial Chapel Friday Night.

Clinton, S. C., March 15.—The Chicora Glee Club, under the direction of Mrs. Bellmann, will give a musical concert, Friday evening March 19th at eight o'clock, in the Thornwell Memorial chapel. The people of Clinton will have the opportunity to hear once again a large chorus of college girls who have been working earnestly under the direction of an expert musician. A complete change in the program will be made and much interest in the concert, especially among the P. C. boys, is already evident.

Mrs. Bellmann who has charge of the musical department of Chicora college is to be highly complimented on the success which the Chicora Glee Club under her direction has attained. The musical program rendered at Clinton last year was 'deserving of much praise. And already this season the Chicora club has been enthusiastically applauded at Clemson College.

The concert at Clinton Friday, March 19th, will be given for the benefit of the Athletic Association of the Presbyterian college. Admission will be 50 cents. Tickets are on sale at Dillard & Dillard and the Clinton Pharmacy.

MILLINERY OPENING.

Switzer Company will Make Special Display of Spring Goods Friday.

The time for the annual spring openings is here and the first to announce their special display is Switzer Company. Friday of this week has been selected by them as the day for which they have made special preparations for a complete display of the latest in millinery and the newest and noblest in ready-to-wear. Besides these two lines they will have special displays of all ladies' wearables.

This season their millinery department will be in charge of Miss Tome of Baltimore who has been in the city for several days getting things ready for the big day Friday. Miss Tome comes to Laurens highly recommended as one of experience and ability.

Treasurer Young Sick.

County Treasurer Ross D. Young has been confined to his home for several days on account of sickness. It is feared that he has pneumonia. In his absence, his duties are being performed by his brother, Mr. Henry Young, assisted by the accommodating county auditor, Mr. J. Waddy Thompson. Although they find it an arduous task to do the treasurer's labors as he does them himself, still they state that they are prepared for all comers and will be able to take care of all the heavy business to be transacted between now and the 31st, when the time for the payment of taxes expires.

First Bloom of the Season.

The first English pea bloom of the season has made its appearance, and Mrs. C. M. Clarke carries off the honors as being the grower of it. The bloom was found in her garden yesterday morning and was sent to the garden editor of The Advertiser for his inspection. So far as the aforesaid garden editor is able to find out, this is the first English pea bloom to appear in this vicinity.

Loses His Position.

Mr. W. B. Clark has lost his position as city mail carrier, his services ending today. His successor is yet to be named. Mr. Clark has many friends in the city, especially on the route which he has served for the past eight years, who hope he can be re-instated. The charge against him was "political activity."—Greenwood Journal.

Off for Charleston.

Head Consul C. A. Power and delegates from the different camps of the Woodmen of the World left the first of the week for Charleston, where the state camp meets in annual session. Head Consul C. A. Power will preside over the meetings of the session and other members of the Laurens delegation will doubtless play prominent parts in the deliberations. The report of Mr. Power shows that, in spite of the depressing business conditions, the order in this state has shown a gratifying growth during his year's term of office.

FINE MEETING EXPECTED.

Christian Endeavor to Have Special Program Sunday Evening.

Next Sunday night's meeting of the Christian Endeavor Society of the First Presbyterian church at 6:45 p. m., bids fair to be one of the most interesting and instructive lately held. The general public is invited and welcomed to all the meetings of this younger people's society. The general topic or theme is "Our English Bible." Talks will be made upon the following and other heads.

"The Bible as a Book, as a Library"

"The Books in our Bible, by whom selected and why."

"The Different Versions. Merits and demerits."

"The Works of St. Luke and Something of Their Author."

"What is the Best Way to Study the Bible"

"Favorite Books and their Lessons for us. Psalms, I Corinthians, James, Esther."

"The Best Short Story in all Literature."

CHAIRMAN OF BOARD.

Scarborough Elected to Head Asylum Board of Regents.

Columbia, March 11.—Robert B. Scarborough of Conway was elected chairman of the board of regents of the State Hospital for the Insane at the organization meeting of the new board held in the governor's office. The members discussed the plans for improving conditions at the hospital under the reorganization act. A second meeting will be held this morning at the asylum. The board will inspect all of the buildings.

Members of the board present yesterday were: R. B. Scarborough of Conway; J. E. Sirrine of Greenville; C. Fred Williams, M. D., of Columbia; S. C. Baker, M. D., of Sumter, and B. W. Segars of Lee county.

Gov. Manning was present at the meeting and discussed the reorganization plan with the members. No announcement of policy will be made at the present.

Robert Bethea Scarborough, who heads the new asylum board, was born in 1861 at Chesterfield, was educated at Mullins academy in Marion county, and in 1896 was elected State senator from the county of Horry, in which he has resided from early manhood. As president pro tempore of the senate, he succeeded in 1899 to the office of lieutenant governor, by reason of the death of Gov. Ellerbe. He was elected member of congress from the Sixth district of South Carolina in 1900. Mr. Scarborough is a lawyer, and as such, has practiced at the bar of Conway since 1881.

PENSION LAWS UNCHANGED.

Correction of General Impression made by Chairman of Pension Commission.

Columbia, March 11.—W. H. Edwards, of Chester, member of the state pension board, has given out the following statement:

From letters to the state pension board from the county pension boards and from private individuals, it seems that there is a wide-spread misunderstanding in regard to the acts passed by the last general assembly in regard to pensions. The law as to eligibility to pensions was not changed in any particular. The only change made by the last general assembly in regard to pensions was to add \$50,000 to the pension fund, out of which must come in round numbers \$17,500 for the maintenance of the Confederate infirmaries. The fund this year for pensions is \$282,500, and the fund will be thus distributed by the comptroller general by the direction of the state pension board. The pensioners may expect the money on or about the 15th of April, 1915. There was absolutely no change made in the pension law by the last general assembly.

W. H. Edwards,
Member State Pension Board.

Banquet by Masons.

Rising Sun Chapter, R. A. M., held a largely attended and unusually enjoyable meeting Friday night, when ten candidates were received into the chapter. Geo. T. Bryan, Deputy Grand High Priest, being present to assist in the ceremonies. After the meeting, the members enjoyed a delightful banquet.

IMPORTANT MEETINGS.

Rev. J. L. Harley Will Conduct Special Meetings here Next Sunday and Monday.

Rev. J. L. Harley, of Spartanburg, superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League of this state, was in Laurens yesterday and while here made preparations for holding several important prohibition meetings next Sunday and Monday. The first meeting will be a special session for the men to be held in the Court House Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. The next will be union services of all churches of the city which will be held in the First Baptist Church Sunday evening at 7:30. On Monday a special meeting of all of the prohibitionists of the county will be held in the court house at 11 A. M. This last meeting is for the purpose of organizing for a strong campaign for pushing the cause of prohibition in this county. Mr. Harley is a speaker of great power and those who come to hear him will be certain of interesting and instructive talks.

COURT ADJOURNED FRIDAY

After Busy Week General Sessions Court Comes to Close.

After a very busy week, in which much business was transacted, the court of general sessions adjourned Friday evening. The following cases were tried the latter part of the week: James H. Jennings, charged with seduction, was found guilty.

Charlie Chappel, house-breaking and larceny, guilty.

John Wallace, house breaking and larceny, not guilty.

Herbert Sullivan, same charge, not guilty.

Geo. M. Davis, the prominent Jacks township farmer charged with the murder of Donnie Moore, colored, was found not guilty.

George Forgy, guilty of murder and recommended to the mercy of the court.

John Gilliam, guilty of assault and battery with intent to kill.

Wash Owens, guilty of aiding prisoners to escape.

Johnson McNeill, convicted of assault and battery and carrying concealed weapons.

Lellias Vance, convicted of assault and battery with intent to kill.

D. L. Boozer, convicted of interfering with an officer in the discharge of his duty. Sentenced to three months or a fine of \$150 and suspended during good behavior on the payment of \$50.

Manue McMorris, was acquitted of the murder of Phil Randal.

The following was the presentment of the grand jury: To the Hon. E. S. Moore, Presiding Judge, Spring Term of Court, Laurens County:

We beg to submit to your Honor and the Court our final presentment: We the Grand Jury have passed on all bills handed us by the solicitor but the case of the State vs. Matt Sherbert, which case we have been unable to get proper witnesses. They have been summoned but are in North Carolina and failed to appear and we recommend that said bill be carried over to next term of court. We present herewith a petition from citizens of Youngs township asking that a certain road in that township be changed and ask that the supervisor attend to this request as early as possible.

We present herewith the report of county board of commissioners which appears correct. We have appointed proper committees to look into the general welfare of the county and will report at a later session of court as to the general affairs of the county.

We recommend that the Solicitor look into a case with the Magistrate of Cross Hill township brought by Mr. B. Goodman and get said case straightened out in a legal way.

We wish to thank the Hon. Judge and county officers for their kind and courteous treatment during this term of court.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. W. Wells,
Foreman.

Card of Thanks.

Mrs. J. R. Boyd, son, and daughters wish to thank their numerous friends and neighbors for their many kindnesses during the illness and death of husband and father.

WARE SHOALS ITEMS.

Entertainment for Belgium Relief Monument Erected to Founders of Friendship Church.

Ware Shoals, March 13.—An entertainment was held here in Katherine Hall on last Friday night in aid of the Belgium Relief Fund and was a great success. The event was in charge of Mrs. J. M. Dallas and a committee of young ladies and was attended by a large crowd of our citizens who took this way of expressing their sympathy with that grief stricken country and people. The evening was spent in a most delightful way with games, songs, and a varied list of amusements which the young people took thorough advantage of. A large sum of money was collected which will be forwarded to the headquarters of the fund in New York.

A beautiful regal blue monument has been erected in Friendship Presbyterian church in honor of the men and women who organized the congregation in the year 1820. The monument is a work of art and reflects great credit on the church, and the artist Mr. E. E. Pitts of Brewerton, the sculptor. On the fourth Sunday in March it was exposed to the view of the congregation who were much pleased by the artistic design and the general excellence of the work. Rev. J. M. Dallas the designer, expressed himself as very well pleased by the manner in which the design had been executed. The inscription on the monument is as follows:

Erected in honor

of

The Christian men and women

Who organized

Friendship Presbyterian Church,

A. D. 1820

And all the faithful people, . . .

Who since the founding of Zion,

Have kept the Gospel light

Burning in this sacred place.

Much sorrow was expressed in our village when it became known that Mrs. Earl Elledge of Boyd's Mill had passed away during the evening of Thursday, March 11th after a long and severe sickness which was borne with beautiful Christian resignation. Mrs. Elledge was a young woman who was greatly beloved by a large circle of friends for her fine, charming personality and will be greatly missed by all who had the honor of her acquaintance. Before marriage she was Miss Lily Dodson of Donalds in which village she was well known and esteemed. The funeral of the deceased lady took place at noon Friday at Quaker church cemetery and was attended by a large concourse of sorrowing relatives and friends. Funeral services were conducted at the church and grave by the young lady's pastor, Rev. J. M. Dallas. Much sympathy is felt for her husband, and also for her father, brother and sisters, of the old home in Donalds.

Mrs. Claud Pinson, one of our popular young matrons is at present on visit to her parents in Laurens.

Our esteemed postmaster Mr. J. L. Young has been enjoying a visit from his brother Thomas, who was once one of our citizens.

COTTON FIRE MONDAY.

About Forty Bales of Cotton Damaged by Blaze on Ware House Platform.

About forty bales of cotton were damaged by fire on the platform of the Farmers Ware House Company Monday afternoon. The blaze was of unknown origin, but is supposed to have been spread from fire started by some children playing in the grass nearby. The fire department got on the scene in a few minutes after the alarm was sounded and by prompt action kept the blaze from travelling further. The usual percentage of insurance was carried on the cotton.

The department was called out the same day to extinguish a small blaze in the home of Mrs. Geo. Young, on North Harper street. There was very little damage done there.

Contest at Trinity-Ridge.

The preliminary declaration contest to select contestants for the county fair will be held at the Trinity-Ridge school house Friday evening, March 26th, beginning at 8 o'clock. The public is invited to attend.

Buys New Maxwell.

Among the recent sales made by the Laurens Motor Car Company was a Maxwell roadster to Mr. "Tuck" Brooks, of the Eden section. An older Model Maxwell was taken in the trade.

ENGLAND DECLARES GERMAN BLOCKADE

Announces Stopping Trade to and From Germany

BLOCKADE ORDER SIGNED BY KING

Announces Definite Terms Under Which She Expects to Hold Shipping Away from Neighbor. Will Pay for Goods Seized Unless Contraband. Austria and Turkey Not Affected.

London, March 15.—Great Britain made known to the world today in a formal proclamation signed in council by the king and issued from Buckingham palace, how she proposes to cover the arteries of sea commerce to and from Germany during the war.

The term "blockade" is not used, and no prohibited area is defined. Nevertheless, the text of the order makes plain England's purpose to prevent commodities of any kind from reaching or leaving Germany during the war.

British officials tonight frankly called the movement a blockade, the foreign office describing it as an effective blockade, differing from the effective blockades of history only in that the property seized will not be confiscated outright, but sold, the proceeds eventually going to the owners.

The last clause of the proclamation contains the proposal most interesting to neutrals. This is a flat agreement to life the "blockade" in case any nation will certify that the ships flying its flag shall not carry goods to Germany or goods originating therein or goods belonging to the subjects of the German empire. It is notable that the order declares no intention to capture ships proceeding to and from the countries of Germany's allies, Austria and Turkey, the reason being, no doubt, that the measure is avowedly a reprisal against Germany's submarine warfare.

A Great Debate.

The suffrage debate held at the graded school auditorium Friday evening proved a very interesting and entertaining one, the debaters handling their arguments with skill and ability. The query was "Resolved that women should be given the right to vote in South Carolina." The affirmative was upheld by Messrs. Fewell, of the Watts Mills school, and Robison, of the Ora school. The negative was upheld by Messrs. Wilson, of the Gray Court-Owings School, and Sullivan, county superintendent of education. The decision was rendered in favor of the negative.

Mr. Dial Honored.

Mr. N. B. Dial was named as executive committeeman from South Carolina of the Southern Settlement and Development Organization at its convention held in Baltimore last week, according to an extended account of the meeting in the Baltimore Sun. Mr. Dial was unable to attend the meeting but stated yesterday that he was in sympathy with the valuable work the organization is doing.

Store Burned at Barksdale.

The store of Mr. J. A. Todd, at Barksdale Station, was completely destroyed about two o'clock yesterday morning. The loss was about \$1,000 with insurance of \$500. The cause of the fire is unknown. The friends of Mr. Todd sympathize with him in his loss.

Teachers Met Saturday.

The monthly meeting of the county teachers association was held in the graded school auditorium Saturday morning. The meeting was a very interesting and helpful one. Among other things done, the teachers went on record as favoring the adoption of compulsory school attendance in this county.

Escaped from Jail.

V. A. Ross, who plead guilty in general sessions court last week to the charge of non-support of his family and given a sentence of one year, escaped from the jail Wednesday night. He had been sent down to get an armful of wood, when he decided to make his getaway. At last reports, he had not been captured.